

File CRAFT

5/28/80

SUBJECT: Comments on Craft Plan

Bruce,

This is the best paper I have seen yet on Craft. It's greatest strength is that it describes the current system in clear terms. The biggest problem I have is with the organization of the project office. They have split the Development Group and Programming Group into two separate parts. That clearly is not a good plan. Design and programming are not organizationally two separate tasks. They both continually evolve during development. Having them separate will only increase communications problems, frustrations, and management overhead.

The project office itself is too big. Why does it need three ADP Officers in 1980 and three in 1981? I look at the size of it and I'm not sure who is really doing the work. The technical work should be done in the Development Group. Why have seven people watching them do it? In looking at all the manning levels I get the feeling that what they really need is just a few good people and not just a big crowd.

Also who is actually writing the software? Are they in the personnel profile (p 26) or the funding profile (p 25). Why does the money for design and development (p 28) hit a peak of 1.56 million in FY83? According to the flow chart (p 23), design and development should be finished by FY82. Why does the design and development money rise from FY84 to FY87 (p 25) and the people decrease (p 26). Something doesn't jive.

I believe that they have underestimated the difficulty of bringing the first minicomputer online. The installation of the first one is scheduled for midway in FY83. At a minimum, they should plan to watch it 4 - 6 months before they bring up others. All systems have growing pains in the beginning and so will they. I'm sure that they will learn a lot about subsequent systems by watching this one in operation. I therefore think they are overly optimistic in planning for six large stations in FY83. I would plan for one.

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